TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

May 23, 2001 LB 273

for. So we're just opening ourselves up, I think, for a lot of problems that we don't have to do. Boy, I have supported ag all of my years here in the Legislature. I've supported ethanol, every bill that came down the row. And I'll continue to support agriculture, whether it be corn, hogs, beef, turkey, as we had at noon. I'm really for that. I'll do anything I can. I don't believe this is one that we need to support. And I would just urge the body to vote against this bill, to vote against the hemp bill. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, on the committee amendments to LB 273.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I haven't heard so much misinformation and mythology since the last time, as a little boy, I was in church and listened to a People are just talking all kinds of mythological sermon. First of all, there's an organization that exists by stuff. fighting against drugs. They've run out of issues, so they They started going after young people so they create issues. couldn't drink any liquor without getting a record, and locked and all these other things. Now they've jumped on the hobbyhorse of industrial hemp. Outside groups I know are going to try to snooker the Legislature. I know well-intentioned legislators are going to read information that will cause them to become horrified at the prospect of industrial hemp being grown, when they're not horrified by the new purer strain of heroin, the real drugs that they keep telling us these other things are gateways to. Well, why worry about the gateway if you're not worried about the main drug? Because they haven't had somebody tell them, hey, this is the next thing you can get on your hobbyhorse about. The most preposterous thing in all of this is that fiscal note the State Patrol came up with. Now, they liked the racial profiling bill, so you know what they thought the fiscal impact on them would be? Nothing. The city of Lincoln did not like the racial profiling bill. You know what they said their costs would be for two years? A hundred and twenty-six thousand dollars. The State Patrol, when they like a bill, it won't cost anything. Now they come up here, telling us that in two years it would cost the State Patrol \$680,000. I'd like to ask Senator Stuhr a question, since they